

Uniform dull blue, in a certain light with a faint shadow of greenish blue; the base of the feathers blackish, giving a somewhat mottled appearance, especially on the head; lores blackish; underparts somewhat lighter blue than the back; the feathers on the vent with very indistinct whitish bars; remiges brownish black; primaries with narrow, secondaries with broad margins of dull blue along the outer webs; under wing-coverts pale isabelline; upper tail-coverts dirty brownish; tail-feathers blackish brown, narrowly margined externally with greyish brown.

Bill hornish yellow tipped with blackish; on the gape a naked oval caruncle, also yellow, with two blue verrucæ; legs and feet pale brownish.

Long.			rostr.		alt. rostr.				
tot.	long. al.	caud.	a fr.	rictus.	a bas.	tars.	dig. med.	ung.	
3½"	2" 3'''	12'''	5'''	5'''	3¾'''	8'''	5½'''	2¼'''	

The unique specimen described above was preserved in spirits, and is evidently a young bird. The coloration of the old bird may very probably differ a good deal, as is the case between old and young specimens of both species of *Amblyura*. Analogously to the latter, it might be suspected that the dirty brownish tinge on the upper tail-coverts would change to red.

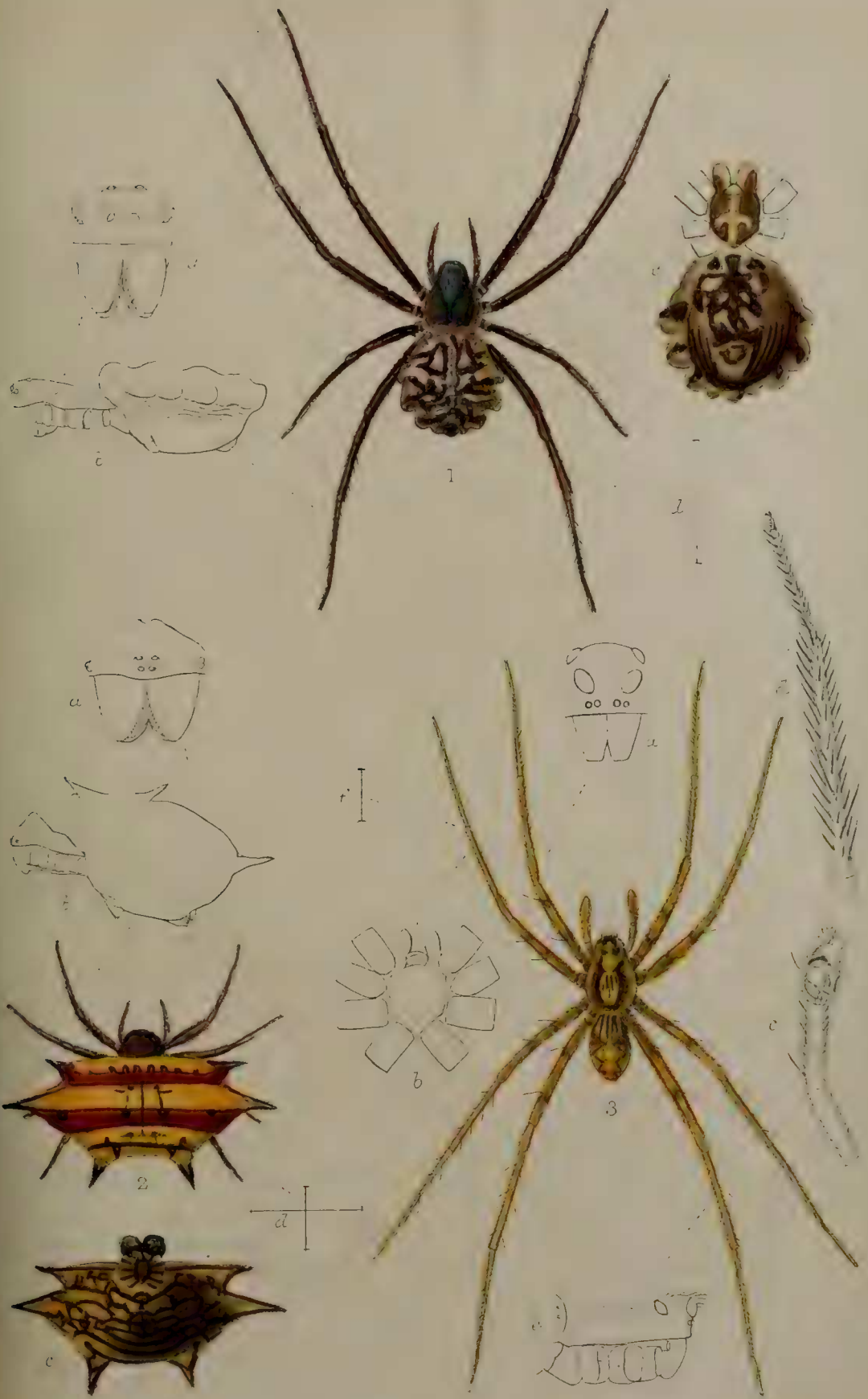
Unfortunately no notice is given of the habits, or the colours of the naked parts alive. The stomach contained small seeds and grains.

3. Notes on a Collection of *Arachnida* made by J. K. Lord, Esq., in the Peninsula of Sinai and on the African borders of the Red Sea. By the Rev. O. P. CAMBRIDGE, M.A., C.M.Z.S.

(Plate L.)

The above collection contained two species of Scorpionidea (upon the specific identity of which I am unable at present to offer any reliable opinion), two species of Solpugidea, and nineteen species of Araneidea. The Scorpions belong, I believe, to the genera *Telegonus* and *Androctonus* (Koch); the Solpugidea were the *Solpuga araneoides* (Oliv.) and the *Solpuga melana* (Savign.) (*Rhax melana*, Koch). Of the former there were several examples, captured in the Wady Ferran, peninsula of Sinai; it is an abundant species in Upper Egypt, as well as in the plains of the Jordan, lurking by day under the stones and among the débris of old ruins, and at night running abroad with great activity and swiftness: of the latter species (*S. melana*) there was but one example, captured also in the Wady Ferran; its dark colour and short legs serve to distinguish it readily from the former. Both are described and figured by Savigny in his great work (*Egypte, Arachnides*, pl. 8. figs. 7-9).

The following is a list of the Araneidea, which comprised three



species apparently new to science, and of which descriptions and figures are added below.

1. *Segestria perfida*, Walck. Ins. Apt. i. 267.—Wady Gherandel, pen. Sin.

2. *Drassus listeri*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. p. 155, pl. 5. fig. 4.—Convent gardens and back of Mount Sinai.

3. *Pholcus rivulatus*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. pl. 3. fig. 12.—Convent gardens and back of Mount Sinai.

4. *Latrodectus hamatus*, Koch, Die Arachn. vi. tab. ccvi. figs. 507, 508.—Convent gardens and back of Mount Sinai.

5. *Argiope aurelia*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. pl. 2. fig. 5.—Inland from Massowah.

6. *Argiope lordii*, Cambr., n. sp.—Inland from Massowah.

7. *Argiope sericea*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. pl. 2. fig. 6.—Convent gardens and back of Mount Sinai.

8. *Epeira opuntiae*, Dufour; Walck. Ins. Apt. ii. p. 140.—Inland from Massowah.

9. *Epeira solers*, var. ?, Walck. Ins. Apt. ii. p. 41.—Jebel Musa, pen. Sin.

I am not satisfied about the specific identity of this Spider; it is similar to several examples captured by myself in Egypt and in Palestine; and when the adult male is discovered, possibly it may prove to be undescribed; at present, only having seen the female (in which no structural difference is observable, though it differs somewhat in colours and integument), I include it as a variety of *E. solers*.

10. *Gasteracantha lepida*, Cambr. n. sp.—Mangrove-swamps; African border of Red Sea.

11. *Sparassus linnæi*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. p. 160, pl. 6. fig. 2.—Hot springs, Pharaoh's Baths, Cairo.

Mr. Lord assures me that he captured this species (of which several examples were contained in his collection) in the water of the above baths, into which they voluntarily plunged. Independently of the high temperature (157° Fahr.) of these waters making this a remarkable fact, it is the first species of this family of Araneidea (*Thomisides*) in regard to which, as far as my knowledge goes, aquatic habits have been observed.

12. *Sphasus alexandrinus*, Savign. Egypte, Arachn. p. 142, pl. 4. fig. 1.—Jebel Musa, pen. Sin.

13. *Pasithea viridis*, Blackw. Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 3rd ser. vol. i. no. 6, p. 427.—Jebel Musa, pen. Sin.

14. *Lycosa pilipes*, Lucas, Explor. en Algérie, *Arachnides*, p. 109, pl. 2. fig. 8.—Wady Gherandel, pen. Sin., Nasb, Genneh, Jebel Musa, and at Pharaoh's Baths, Cairo.

15. *Lycosa prelongipes*, Cambr., n. sp.—Wady Nasb, Genneh, Jebel Musa, pen. Sin.

16. *Lycosa tarentula apuliae*, Walck. Ins. Apt. tom. i. p. 281.—In an old wall, Wady Ferran, pen. Sin.

17. *Salticus vaillantii*, Lucas, Explor. en Algérie, *Arachnides*, p. 136, pl. 5. fig. 2.—In an old wall, Wady Ferran, pen. Sin.

18. *Attus sanguinolentus*, Walck. Ins. Apt. tom. i. p. 473.—Convent gardens and back of Mount Sinai.

19. *Eresus acanthophilus*, Duf. ; Walck. Ins. Apt. tom. i. p. 399.—Wady Nasb, Genneh, Jebel Musa, and Convent gardens, back of Mount Sinai.

Descriptions of new Species.

Genus ARGIOPE (Savign.).

ARGIOPE LORDII, n. sp. (Plate L. fig. 1.)

Female adult, length $8\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Cephalothorax flattened, oblong oval, strongly compressed laterally at the caput, which is rather produced; the normal furrows and indentations are well marked; the colour is deep brown, with a broad yellow thoracic margin, and reddish-yellow patches or suffusions at the junction of the caput and thorax; the brown portions are thickly clothed with a short adpressed light grey pubescence, among which are some short erect dark bristles.

Eyes eight, not very unequal in size, in four pairs near the extreme upper fore margin of the caput; those of the two central pairs form an oblong figure, the eyes of the fore side being the largest of the eight, and slightly nearer together than those of the hinder side, though, owing to their larger size, they form a line of equal length; the eyes of each lateral pair are contiguous, placed obliquely on a small tubercle, and are more nearly in a straight line with the eyes of the *fore* than of the hind central pair.

Legs long and strong, of a deep red or chestnut-brown colour, with bands of short light grey hairs, furnished, not very thickly, with hairs, bristles, and small spines; each tarsus ends with three claws, the two superior ones strongly pectinated; and beneath them are some supernumerary opposed ones.

Palpi yellowish, clouded and striped with red-brown, furnished with hairs, coarse bristles, and fine spines; and each ends with a curved pectinated claw.

Falces moderately long, strong, vertical, conical; of a deep brown colour, slightly tipped with yellow.

Maxillæ short, strong, enlarged near their middle, round at the extremities; of a rich black-brown colour, broadly terminating at the upper extremities with yellow.

Labium short, broad, and subtriangular; it is of a black-brown colour at the base; and the apex, which is blunt in form, is yellow.

Sternum heart-shaped, slightly indented on its edges; it is of a deep brown colour charged with a large and somewhat cruciform yellow marking; and the whole is thinly clothed with fine grey hairs.

Abdomen large, of an oblong-oval form, flattened but irregular on

its upper surface, and projecting over the base of the cephalothorax ; its fore margin is truncate ; the rest is considerably indented, forming strong lobes all round, especially towards the hinder part, which is somewhat transversely rugulose ; its colour on the upperside is yellow, strongly marked with a complex zigzag or dentated pattern of a deep brown, which it is impossible to describe accurately and intelligibly, though easily seen in the figure. The yellow portions are more or less clothed with a silky white pubescence ; the lateral lobes are yellow, and each is divided by a broad deep-brown band which runs over them from the upper- to the underside ; the fore part of the abdomen is rather thickly furnished with short erect dark spiny bristles ; the sides are yellow, striated with deep brown ; and the underside is deep black-brown with yellow blotches and markings ; the spiracular plates are of a reddish-brown colour, margined before and inside with yellow.

An adult female of this fine species, which I believe to be undescribed, was captured by Mr. Lord inland from Massowah ; and I have great pleasure in naming it after its captor, by whose kindness I am able to describe and figure it.

N.B.—In describing the pattern on the abdomen of this (and other intricately marked) species, the *dark* colour might be taken as the *ground-colour* ; but I have above assumed the *lighter* colour to be so.

Genus GASTERACANTHA.

GASTERACANTHA LEPIDA, n. sp. (Plate L. fig. 2.)

Female adult : length of abdomen 3 lines, breadth $5\frac{1}{2}$ exclusive of the spines ; length of the Spider $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines, breadth to extremity of the lateral spines 8 lines.

The *cephalothorax* is similar in general form and appearance to that of many other allied species ; the caput is elevated, the occiput being the highest part, and its high transverse ridge is divided across the middle by a notch or groove into two quasi-segments ; its colour is a deep rich chestnut-brown ; the *falces* are rather deeper in colour, and the *legs* (which are moderately strong, not very long, and furnished with hairs and slender bristles) are of a rich deep brown colour ; the palpi are similar in colour.

The *maxillæ*, *labium*, and *sternum* are normal in structure and of a jet-black colour : the *eyes* also are normal in position ; four form a small trapezoid, of which the fore side is the shortest, and are seated on a tubercle near the middle of the lower fore margin of the caput ; and on either side is a lateral pair widely removed from the central square ; the eyes of these lateral pairs are contiguous to each other, and each pair is seated on a strong lateral tubercular prominence of the fore corner of the caput.

The *abdomen* is of the usual horny texture ; its breadth is double its length ; and it is armed with six prominent sharp spines of different lengths, none being very long ; two spring from the ends of the fore margin, and are directed a little forwards ; behind each of these is another (the longest of the six) very slightly curved, and whose direction is in the least possible degree backwards : the